



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Preliminary Report

Location:	Camarillo, CA	Accident Number:	WPR19FA212
Date & Time:	08/07/2019, 1329 PDT	Registration:	N43FD
Aircraft:	Wheeler EXPRESS SERIES 2000	Injuries:	2 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

On August 7, 2019, about 1329 Pacific daylight time, an experimental Wheeler Express 2000 airplane, N43FD, was substantially damaged when it impacted the ground near Camarillo Airport (CMA), Camarillo, California. The private pilot and passenger were fatally injured. The airplane was registered to N43FD Airplane LLC, which was owned by two persons, one of whom was the pilot. The personal cross country flight was operated by the pilot under the provisions of Title 14 *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 91. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed at the accident site about the time of the accident, and a flight plan was filed for the flight. The flight originated from the South Valley Regional Airport (U42) Salt Lake City, Utah about 0900 mountain daylight time.

According to the preliminary information from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), the pilot contacted the CMA air traffic control tower (ATCT) local controller (LC) when the airplane was about 5 miles north of CMA, and advised the LC that he was inbound for landing. The pilot was instructed by the LC to fly a right traffic pattern for runway 26. Soon thereafter, the ATCT ground controller (GC) observed the airplane on a 2-mile final. Subsequently, the LC reported a dust cloud from the crashed airplane.

A flight instructor and his student were hovering about 10 feet above the CMA pavement in a helicopter, and both witnessed the accident. The instructor saw the airplane when it was on final approach, close to the runway. When the airplane was about 40 feet above the ground, the airplane entered into an "aerodynamic stall" and then impacted the ground. The student pilot stated that the airplane pitched up and then entered a downward right bank and impacted the ground.

The airplane impacted the ground about 750 feet short of the runway. The debris field was approximately 130 feet long and aligned towards the northwest. The first identified point of contact with the ground was ground scarring and contained multiple fragments from the composite right wing tip. The main wreckage consisted of the fuselage, empennage, engine, and both wings.

The wreckage was recovered and transported to a secure facility for further investigation.

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Wheeler	Registration:	N43FD
Model/Series:	EXPRESS SERIES 2000 No Series	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Amateur Built:	Yes		
Operator:	N43FD Airplane LLC.	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KCMA, 65 ft msl	Observation Time:	2055 UTC
Distance from Accident Site:	1 Nautical Miles	Temperature/Dew Point:	23° C / 16° C
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	9 knots / , 240°
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility:	10 Miles
Altimeter Setting:	29.95 inches Hg	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	VFR
Departure Point:	Tonopah, NV (TPH)	Destination:	Camarillo, CA (CMA)

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 Fatal	Latitude, Longitude:	34.213889, -119.070833 (est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Jackie L Vanover
Additional Participating Persons:	Adrian Riveria; FAA; Van Nuys, CA Mike Council; Continental Motors; Mobile, AL
Note:	The NTSB traveled to the scene of this accident.